

"TURNING ASPIRATIONS INTO REALITY"

Chief Editor: Amita Kumari Contributors: Noor & Pav Patel

From the Directors

Dear Parents, Carers and Friends

The child has one intuitive aim: self development - Montessori

...and we aim to 'nurture their hearts and minds'!

We take this opportunity to thank you all for your understanding of the disruption due to the adverse weather conditions. It is never an easy decision to close the school at any time, please be assured that it is never taken lightly and always in the interests of the safety of the students and staff.

This has been a very busy term full of exciting trips and visits as well as the serious business of assessments, and as always the students have taken it in their stride

We extend a particularly warm welcome to our new English Teacher, Georgia, and Music and Media Teacher, James, and also publicly thank our Chef, Vivene, for her delicious culinary creations! We thank our staff team who have worked hard to ensure our students have been able to secure a good level of progress. At this point of the academic year we begin a re-energised and sustained effort to meet the high expectations we have for all aspects of school life, and would ask parents/carers for your continued support with attendance, punctuality and uniform.

As we approach the holiday period especially please can I remind parents/carers to reinforce to all their children the importance of being vigilant over personal safety both in terms of their physical security as well as their virtual safety when accessing the internet/social media sites.

We take this opportunity to wish the whole school community a restful break and leave with a thought from the mighty Stephen Hawking; **'The past, like the future, is indefinite and exists only as a spectrum of possibilities'**.

Directors

Sophie Nelson

Kailash Kumari

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY



Easter Holidays start at 2.00pm on Thursday 29th March. **There are Exam Intervention days for Years 10 & 11 on Wednesday 4th and Thursday 5th April, from 10.00am-3.00pm.**

Target Setting Day is on Monday 16th April, so pupils' first full day back is on **Tuesday 17th April 2018.**

NEWS & EVENTS

We've barely stopped, this term, at PhoenixPlace! Staff and students have been busy with trips and visits, and also preparing for exam season next term. Our Independent Careers Advisor came to see our Year 9, 10 and 11 students, to help ensure they feel they're on the right path for their future ambitions.

On Tuesday 6th March, Year 9 and year 10 students took part in a Women's Empowerment Workshop to celebrate International Women's Day. The girls took part in a dance workshop, asked questions to a panel of business women and also got the chance to speak to over 60 women in different careers. It was an inspirational day and the girls thoroughly enjoyed the opportunity.



Our students who are interested in careers as flight attendants were taken to Heathrow airport to experience the hustle and bustle of a busy terminal!

NEWS & EVENTS

KS4 student Noor has written a piece on a work experience week at The Young Vic.

"I recently did work experience at the Young Vic Theatre in Waterloo. I got this placement as in previous years PhoenixPlace did a project with them so my teacher had their contact.

I was based in the 'taking part department' where all the behind the scenes happen! I started on Monday 5th March and I met Daniel first and he was very welcoming and I was given a booklet to fill in during my time, this is because it's something to remind myself of what I did on each day and so it would be really useful to put on my CV and something great I can talk about in job interviews.

Everyone went into the main office and we all had to say our name and when we would be in the office. So I introduced myself and told everyone I was on work experience for this week. I then met Rob, Kristen, Mikki, Patrick and Lily who I all love and worked really well and closely with.

I was now to do my big task! I had to find out all the theatres in 32 boroughs in London, their email address and phone numbers. This is so that other young people that are interested in work experience and are unable to do this at the Young Vic can be easily be able to access the relevant information. This data was all put onto a spreadsheet on Excel, which before I'd never used so this taught me a great ICT skill!

Fun fact - I also learned what a podcast is!

Tuesday - Until lunchtime I carried on with my spreadsheet work and finished this. It was definitely rewarding to see all the work that I'd done at the end and to know that I'll be helping so many young people that are interested as the staff are very busy and don't always have the time to do this.

In the afternoon I went to see the technical rehearsal of the play called 'The Inheritance'. I learned that a technical rehearsal is where everyone involved focus on the lighting and sound. A dress rehearsal is where the actors get dressed up. In this case, they were very much so dressed down!...

The Inheritance is a play about a crisis to do with young gay men and love. Seeing the technical rehearsal was very cool! I really loved it and will definitely be going back to see the whole play. It was also immensely interesting to see the actors acting but then changing to themselves. They really were two different people! They had excellent voice projection, movement and stage presence.

There were all sorts of people in the technical rehearsal such as the director who played a big role in the making of the play. He seemed quite assertive and knew what direction he wanted to take the play. It was also so strange having to see the actors doing a scene over and over again. It was as little as, for example, the book didn't land in the right place so they had to rehearse again and again. And it made me wonder and realise, whilst still having all the positives to being an actor which is amazing, it also must be hard work!

Wednesday - A very interesting and new experience. I went to observe a workshop which was 'auditioning for directors'. This meant that what employers should look for in directors and even actors, however it mainly focused on directing. Clare Lizzimore who led this workshop seemed like a very experienced and talented director with good and solid advice to give to all the other people. Along with her joined the actor who played the main part in 'The Bull' which was also put on at the Young Vic in 2016 and Clare directed this.

There was then a demonstration where a writer who wrote the play, the director and the actor all sat together and this portrayed what this would look like in a interview. They talked about the play, the acting and asked for the actor to do a rehearsal of part of the script. As myself

interested in both acting and directing it taught me what I might need in both situations which was useful and good to know.

After lunch I went to see the technical rehearsals again and I saw people controlling sound and light with all their big buttons!

Thursday - Was also such an amazing and cool day. I helped out at the box office that morning. At the back of the seats in the theatre you will find numbers, this tells you where to sit. At the end of each production the ushers collect all the numbers and put them into a box of where they are supposed to go. But of course, they all get mixed and muddled up. My job in this was to rearrange all 6 boxes and put them in the right section. For example if you had 56, you had to find all the 56's and put them in the correct box. I did some cutting and gluing in the process. This took me fairly quick so I went back to the office and filled in some of my booklet.

As it was the 8th March which was International Women's Day, I made a really cool poster after lunch. They had all sorts of art materials that I could use. I mainly used paint but tissue paper and pens too. This was so much fun and everyone loved my poster. It was also my last day with my colleagues, which we were sad about.

Friday - Was an amusing, fun and productive and an exciting day.

There was a workshop being held at the Young Vic in the afternoon, a designer was coming in to talk about design and how it relates to objects and props. So Kirsten led myself and Mikki to the prop room! This is where all the props are kept for productions and it just means that they save so much money instead of buying something you already have. I also learned that there was so much to a theatre that the general public just simply don't see. We climbed up and there were such a variety and all sorts of random things which did make me think 'what production could they have possibly used this for'.

Our job was to pick out objects for the workshop that seemed meaningful and interesting. They were in big, heavy boxes. Getting them done was fun. Getting them back was a hassle. But we managed to pack some really compelling and imaginative items.

Another really exciting thing I got to do was go into the costume and design department! I really loved this as I'm creative and have a interest in fashion, costume and design. The designer for the workshop decided he then also wanted- 2 shirts, a dress and shoes. It was amazing and extraordinary to see all the costumes. There were so many of them. I picked out 2 dresses and a pair of sparkly heels!

In the afternoon I made a really nice poster for them of the Young Vic and I drew everyone in it and it read 'thank you for having me'. Kirsten, Rob and Mikki said they absolutely loved it and Daniel would be very happy, because I gave him a crown!

Overall I really enjoyed and loved my work experience after feeling dead nervous because I'd never been in a work environment before. And it helped that everyone I worked with was so nice and lovely - the kind of person I would like to be always. I learned so much about theatre and about the working world. I learned so much skills yet developing some that I knew I already had. Working with new people grew my confidence and I most definitely would do it all over again. I think it's really important and an amazing opportunity for all year 10 students to do work experience in something they're passionate about. That is what makes a excellent work experience."

Pupils' Work

In English, KS3 student Tonianne wrote a poem on Bullying:

*Words can hurt and make me sad,
When I haven't done anything bad,
Sometimes words that hurt start as a joke or a
boast,
I wake up everyday don't wanna leave my
home,
My mum is asking me why i'm always alone,
Just because I'm small and you're tall,
Does not mean you're above us all,
Just because you call me gay,
Doesn't mean I'm gonna run away,
You might not see it but I do,
We are all the same going through life like an
Alton Tower ride,
Just sit back and relax because it's just me,
No need to bully,
When you push me down and call me a liar,
I feel like a fish out of water gasping for water,
I stand up and find my confidence and say no
you will not call me names,
Or be rude to me,
Or take my lunch money
Can can you just leave me be?!*

Year 10 student Noor has taken on a key role in the school, as Student Head of Fundraising.

I have decided to take on the role of event planning and management at PhoenixPlace. This is because I want to build on my leadership skills and from our first fundraising event 'Pyjama Day' I found that I enjoy making decisions and making things happen. Also, because the money raised from these fundraising events will be put towards school trips and equipment, which is amazing, I want to be involved!

We had activities that students took part in such as movie club, baking and we also had a treat of hot chocolate with whipped cream, marshmallows and sprinkles!

Pyjamas day was successful and we managed to raise £21.00! So thank you to everyone who took part and contributed.

Look out for our next fundraising event coming soon, 'Design your own t-shirt'!

Some of our students have snapped up the chance to study music production, and their enthusiasm was at its peak on a trip to a recording studio. Tonianne wowed us with a recording of a song called They Can't Bring me Down whilst Rihanna impressed everybody with her own rap, Toxic Love.

In English, students cover a module called "War of Words", which predominantly looks at literature from soldiers and civilians during times of conflict. Rihanna, however, looked at conflict from a different stance and chose to write about the conflict between races during the civil rights movement. In the journal, she put herself in the shoes of a young black person trying to go about her daily life in the 1950s. In order to write this, Rihanna had to look at a range of texts written by people during this era.

8th August 1959

Dear Journal,

Today has been quite worrying but at least I made it out of Georgia alive. This morning Momma woke me up at 5am told me to look after Bobby, Brandi and Bruno.

At 9:30, aunt Tameka came over and looked after the "the three bees" aka Bobby, Brandi and Bruno till me or Mom got back from work. Which would be at 10:30 at night.

9:34, I left home got on the bus to Downtown Atlanta. This white man, the bus driver told me he wanted no negroes on the bus. I responded in the best mannered way by saying "how could you say that? I'm not the only black person on the bus".

So, I got off the bus walked my way to work. "Where do you think you're goin'?" The officer stopped me... I dropped on the ground, feeling nothing but the whoopings from the white man.

I prayed to God to make this stop..

This is how the war started

ACHIEVEMENTS



This section is our best section!

It is where we like to recognise the achievements of students throughout the term.

ATTENDANCE

ATTENDANCE IS VERY IMPORTANT TO US. TO BE SUCCESSFUL YOU HAVE TO BE PRESENT AND TAKE PART.

WELL DONE TO THE FOLLOWING STUDENTS WHO HAVE ACHIEVED THEIR TARGET ATTENDANCE % OR 100% ATTENDANCE

WEEK 1	WEEK 2	WEEK 3	WEEK 4	WEEK 5	WEEK 6
Rebecca	Noor	Rihana	Andriana	Reanna	Tonianne

WE VALUE READING

AT PHOENIXPLACE WE HAVE A PASSION AND DETERMINATION TO IMPROVE STUDENTS LOVE FOR READING, STUDENT COMPREHENSION AND, IN TURN, RAISE STUDENTS CONFIDENCE AND SELF-ESTEEM, SO HAVE DEDICATED TIME, THREE DAYS A WEEK, TO A ONE-TO-ONE READING SESSION.

THE WE VALUE READING PROGRAMME HAS SEVERAL AIMS:


- TO PROMOTE THE IMPORTANCE OF READING (NO MATTER WHAT LEVEL)
- TO IMPROVE READING ABILITY OF STUDENTS (FLUENCY & ACCURACY)
- TO IMPROVE STUDENTS COMPREHENSION SKILLS (STUDENTS ABILITY TO ELICIT & RECALL INFORMATION)
- TO MOTIVATE STUDENTS TO READ MORE!

THE PROGRAMME IS STILL PROVING VERY SUCCESSFUL AS WE HAVE SEEN AN IMPROVEMENT IN ALL STUDENTS' READING ABILITIES AND CONFIDENCE!

ASSESSMENTS

EACH OF OUR STUDENTS HAS COMPLETED AN END OF TERM ASSESSMENT IN BOTH ENGLISH AND MATHS, IN THE LAST COUPLE OF WEEKS.

AS WELL AS SHOWING STAFF AT THE SCHOOL HOW OUR PUPILS ARE PROGRESSING AND DEVELOPING, IT PREPARES THE STUDENTS FOR EXAM TECHNIQUES AND PRACTICES, AND HELPS US TO SET TARGETS FOR THE NEXT ACADEMIC TERM.

	SUBJECT reviews - WHAT WE HAVE BEEN Learning THIS term!
English	Poetry & narratives surrounding different types of relationships, "War of Words" module. The GCSE students have been exploring different text types and have written letters, biographies, autobiographies and travel pieces advising people where they should visit.
Maths	Fractions, decimals and percentages, angles and probability
Science	competition between plants and animals, adaptation, food chains
PHSE	Developing & maintaining a variety of healthy relationships within a range of social/cultural contexts, recognising and managing a range of emotions within a range of relationships, dealing with risky or negative relationships including all forms of bullying and abuse, sexual and other violence and online encounters.
PE	Building strength in by taking part in boxing circuits and plyometrics sessions, badminton, gymnastics (including a paired routine). KS3 students have also been taking part in PE cross curricular lessons, with the two main focuses being PE and English in SPR1 and PE and Art in SPR2. The students were able to get their creative minds flowing and created some good pieces of work. This included making sports action models out of clay/foam and designing PE kits in cross curricular art lessons and also writing sports poetry and sports profiles in cross curricular English lessons.
Art	Clay modelling, papier mache lamp shades, foam models.
Prince's Trust	Enhancing digital skills, including researching the issues surrounding E-Safety, the advantages and disadvantages of using digital technology and also making a presentation on a subject of their choice. Students have chosen to make digital presentations on subjects such as Henry VIII, Dogs and Tourist Attractions in Iceland.

Useful Information

As we all know, the internet is an integral part of all our lives. It offers many positive opportunities. Just as we want to keep our children safe in the real world, we want to do the same in the virtual world.

PHOENIXPLACE is continuing its steps to ensure e-safety for all our students.

We are still tackling, head-on, the issues surrounding healthy eating, by striving to encourage our students to maintain a balanced diet.

Lunches served onsite are healthy, as we have chefs in Monday-Thursday, though we're allowed to have treats on Fridays!

Summer 2018/2019 Term Dates

Target Setting and Review Day - Monday 16th April 2018

Students Return

Tuesday 17th April 2018

Half Term

Monday 28th May 2018 - Friday 2nd June 2018

Terms Ends for students

Friday 20th July 2018

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